

The Stage

By BIDE DUDLEY

"TAKE A CHANCE," a new musical comedy, has been put in rehearsal by the Phoenix Production Company. H. I. Phillips and Harold Orlow have written the book and lyrics, while the music is by Mr. Orlow alone. The show will open out of town early in February. Mr. Phillips is the columnist of the Globe. Mr. Orlow has written the music for several Broadway productions.

SHESGREEN PRODUCING. John Staglieno's new comedy-drama, "The Green Scarab," is being produced by James Shesgreen, until recently general manager of Wagons and Kenner. The cast includes H. Cooper Cliffe, Alexandra Carlisle, Victor Morley, Henry Morley, Lucille Sears, Edward Colbrook and Lillian Walker.

"SHAKESPEARE" JAN. 1. Winthrop Ames's production of "Will Shakespeare," the Clementine Dano play, will open at the National Theatre on Jan. 1. "Fashions for Men," now at the National, will move on that day to the Belmont.

JOY FOR ORPHANS. Elmer J. Walters is to have an Orphans' matinee to-morrow at the Yorkville Theatre. The patrons of that stock house have contributed about 2,000 toys which will be given to the children after the performance of "The Shepherd of the Hills."

CAROLS PROVE POPULAR. The final noon-day singing of Christmas carols by Father Finn's choristers at the Palace Theatre will take place to-morrow. These concerts have been packing the Palace at noon daily all week.

FOR THE CHILDREN. Little Mary Allen Tanscher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Tanscher, will be the hostess at a children's Christmas party at N. V. A. Clubhouse at noon on Dec. 23. All the N. V. A. children are invited. There will be a luncheon and a show for the toys. Carols are requested. The party is given by Harry Chesterfield, at the N. V. A., of the acceptance of this invitation.

GOSSIP. Helen MacKellar is "The Masked Woman" opens at the Eltinge to-night.

There will be a special midnight performance of "Liza" at Daly's 34th Street Theatre New Year's Eve.

Ruth Draper will sail for New York from Europe next week. She will appear at the Broadhurst Theatre Jan. 14.

Johnny and Ray Decker, of "The Lunch and Judy," will take part in a benefit for a Christmas fund Sunday night.

Mary Carroll has been engaged to play opposite Season Hayakawa, the Japanese actor, in "Tiger Lily."

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY. "It's all right," writes a reader, "to ask a man to have 123 plates on his auto, but what about the cups and saucers?"

FOOLISHMENT. "I'd like to get a pumpkin pie," said Henry in a bakery. "No pie," then came the clerk's reply. "We run this as a bakery."

FROM THE CHESTNUT TREE. "The mattress factory has closed." "What's wrong?" "The workmen laid down on their jobs."

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Kiddie Klub's 'Search for Santa Claus' To Be Annual Show's Thrilling Feature



CHARLOTTE UMLAND. ADELAIDE UMLAND. FRANCES LOPEZ. SYLVIA BINDER. ELVIRA KERESKY.

The Evening World's most indefatigable reporter got a scoop to-day by hiding behind the door of Cousin Eleanor Schorer's office, waylaid her as she entered, and compelling her at the point of pencil to reveal the most guarded secrets about what is going to happen next week at the Casino Theatre, courtesy of the famous Shuberts, Lee and J. J.

It was known in advance, of course, that the mornings of Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 28, 29 and 30, Evening World's Kiddie Klub Show, would be devoted to the production of

to find out—and did—was just what kind of a show this is going to be. Here's the secret:

There will be six scenes, each better than its predecessor, and the theme of them all is "A Search for Santa Claus." The search starts in the first scene, continues vividly through five, building up the element of suspense, and finally becomes successful in the sixth, when Santa Claus in person (the person of Mr. D. J. Sullivan) is discovered, surrounded, overpowered, and brought to the very brink of the footlights, where every child can see him close enough almost to count his whiskers.

But that isn't all the reporter found out. He got an outline of the plot itself, and while it would not be fair to give the whole thing away, a few hints are going to be set down right here.

For instance, the first scene shows a bunch of boys and girls coming down a tenement fire escape starting on their quest to the tunes of a hurdy-gurdy.

Next you'll see 'em, worn out by their travels and fast asleep, by the stage door of the Casino itself, discovered by the same Mr. Sullivan who is later to appear as Saint Nick. He leads 'em in, and for the third scene the stage of the Casino has to impersonate itself, because that is what the book provides.

That's enough to suggest the general argument. Of course, there's a lullaby scene and a midnight frolic scene and a lot of incidental things. But just how the original tenement children manage to discover Santa Claus in spite of his disguises must remain a secret, even though the reporter knows. He knows a number of things he's not telling.

He knows, for instance, the names of the fifty-four Kiddie Klub members who are taking part. But he'll men-

tion only a very few of them. It's fair to say that Adelaide Umland and Elvira Keresey are to appear as Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Shean, that Ruth Friedman and Dolly Krauser are among the cleverest singers of their very mild age, that Alice Glasser and Jerome Bachner are expert imitators, and that Lillian Wilmer, whose first appearance for the Kiddie Klub was at the age of two, is now six and so good that she is in the professional class—although mamma won't let her work at it.

Also, the reporter got it straight that the tickets for all three performances are already disposed of.

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